

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MARKUS NOPPER  
AXEL PREUSSE

Serial No.: 10/602,192

Filed: June 24, 2003

For: METHOD OF FORMING A METAL  
LAYER OVER A PATTERNED  
DIELECTRIC BY ELECTROLESS  
DEPOSITION USING A CATALYST

Group Art Unit: 2811

Examiner: Unknown

Attorney Docket: 2000.106500/DE0260

Customer No.: 23720

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as "FIRST CLASS MAIL" addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2004.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

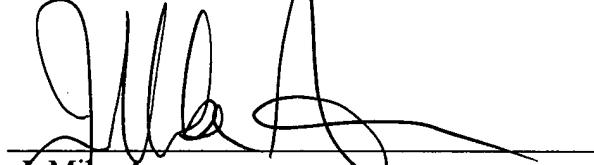
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e)(1), Applicants hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed letter from the German associate.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 (modified)

MAY 06 2004

**List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Docket No.  
2000.106500/DE0260Serial No.  
10/602,192Applicant  
Markus Nopper and Axel PreusseFiling Date:  
June 24, 2003Group:  
2811**U.S. Patent Documents**  
*See Page 1***Foreign Patent Documents**  
*See Page 1***Other Art**  
*See Page 1***U.S. Patent Documents**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date of App.
	A1	2002/0050459 A1	5/02/02	Matsuda <i>et al.</i>	205	118	
	A2	6,479,902 B1	11/12/02	Lopatin <i>et al.</i>	257	774	
	A3						
	A4						
	A5						

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes/No
	B1	EP 1 201 787 A2	5/02/02	Europe	C23C	18/28	Yes
	B2	WO 02/45155 A2	6/06/02	PCT	H01L	21/768	Yes
	B3	2002356733 A	12/13/02	Japan	C22C	27/04	Yes

**Other Art (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Citation
	C1	Shacham-Diamond <i>et al.</i> , "Electroless copper deposition for ULSI," <i>Thin Solid Films</i> , 262:93-103, 1995
	C2	Lin <i>et al.</i> , "Interfacial mechanism studies of electroless plated CU films on <i>a</i> -Ta:N layers catalyzed by PIII," <i>J. Vac. Sci. Technol.</i> , 20:733-40, 2002
	C3	

**EXAMINER:****DATE CONSIDERED:**

EXAMINER: INITIAL IF REFERENCE CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.